Collaboration Between Government, NGOs and Voluntary Organisations

1378. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has on 2nd June, 2000 discussed the issue of collaboration between Government, NGOs and voluntary organizations (VOs) for amending rules and laws for them after a long gap;

(b) whether it is a move to remove bureaucratic hurdles and red-tapism that hinder functioning of NGOs/VOs and the Planning Commission would be empowered to act as nodal agency for all NGOs/VOs functioning under various Ministries/Departments; and

(c) if so, by when the results would come for effective participation of various NGOs/VOs at the grass-roots level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The second meeting of the Joint Machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and NGOs was held on 2nd June, 2000 at the Planning Commission. This Machinery was constituted in September, 1994 and the first meeting was held on 2nd December, 1994. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission chairs this machinery and DG, CAPART is its Member-Secretary. The subject of amending rules and laws for NGOs and voluntary organizations (VOs) was *inter-alia* discussed in this meeting.

(b) and (c) In March, 2000, the Planning Commission was designated as the nodal agency to coordinate and review inter-ministerial policy issues related to Voluntary Organisations. Action is being taken to remove bureaucratic hurdles and red-tapism that hinder functioning of NGOs/VOs through regular interaction with NGOs/VOs. This will help in more effective participation of various NGOs/VOs at the grassroots level.